

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALL-
EN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER MA-
RINE FIRST LIEUTENANT (1STLT)
WILLIAM JAMES DONNELLY, IV

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen Mississippi Marine First Lieutenant (1stLt) William James Donnelly, IV who gave his life while in service to our nation on November 25, 2010, during Operation Enduring Freedom. 1stLt Donnelly was killed while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. This was 1stLt Donnelly's first combat deployment. 1stLt Donnelly was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, California.

According to the Associated Press, 1stLt Donnelly, of Picayune, Mississippi, always wanted to join the U.S. Marine Corps. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Reserve in June 2003 and served as an Assault Amphibious Vehicle (SSV) crewmember in the 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion, 4th Marine Division, Gulfport, Mississippi. He transferred to the U.S. Navy Reserve as a Midshipman to attend the officer training program at the United States Merchant Marine Academy in King's Point, New York where he served as a Midshipman Regimental Commander. 1stLt Donnelly was commissioned as a 2ndLt in the United States Marine Corps after graduating in June 2008 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering. After TBS, he was designated an infantry officer in October 2009 and served as a rifle platoon commander assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Kilo Company, 2nd Platoon, Camp Pendleton, California. 1stLt Donnelly married his wife, Linsey, on September 11, 2010. He deployed to Helmand Province, Afghanistan 15 days later.

1stLt Donnelly's family learned of his death on Thanksgiving Day 2010. Melissa Donnelly-Weed, 1stLt Donnelly's sister, posted on her Facebook page that day. "Always be thankful for family," Melissa said. "I will always be thankful and grateful I had a wonderful brother. He gave his life today for his country doing what he loved—being a Marine. I will miss him forever. I love you, Will!" William J. Donnelly, III, 1stLt Donnelly's father, said his son would not have any regrets even though the loss is extremely hard to bear. "Will was doing what he loved to do and what he always wanted to do," Mr. Donnelly said. "I am sure if we could talk to him now, he would say he had no regrets."

In a release issued by Camp Pendleton, officials said that they had lost a member of their own family. "The Marines and sailors of the 1st Marine Division mourn the loss of 1stLt Donnelly," the release read. "Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family."

After learning of 1stLt Donnelly's death, Picayune Mayor Ed Pinero said it is always hard to lose a hero and on behalf of the city, they extended their heartfelt condolences to the family. "1stLt Donnelly's sacrifice and that of all the men and women who fall in combat protecting our country's freedom should never be forgotten," Mayor Pinero said. Additionally,

Mayor Pinero announced that 1stLt Donnelly's name would be inscribed on a monument in front of the old city hall in Picayune to ensure the town's war heroes are never forgotten.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, December 14th at the United States Naval Academy Chapel in Annapolis, Maryland. Internment was held at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. Friends of 1stLt Donnelly held a memorial service in Picayune at the same hour of the service at Arlington.

1stLt Donnelly is survived by his parents, William Donnelly, III and Vicki Donnelly; his two sisters, Lieutenant Junior Grade (LTJG) Melissa Donnelly-Weed and Rebecca Donnelly; his wife, Linsey Becker-Donnelly; and his nephew Christian Weed.

1stLt Donnelly was awarded the Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

1stLt Donnelly's service and sacrifice to defend America will always be remembered.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 12

5 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To receive a closed briefing on the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act.

SVC-217

FEBRUARY 13

10 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold closed hearings to examine the United States Special Operations Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SVC-217

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019.

SD-608

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine improving animal health, focusing on reauthoriza-

tion of Food and Drug Administration Animal Drug User Fees.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense's role in protecting democratic elections.

SR-222

FEBRUARY 14

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph Simons, of Virginia, Christine S. Wilson, of Virginia, Noah Joshua Phillips, of Maryland, and Rohit Chopra, of New York, each to be a Federal Trade Commissioner.

SR-253

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider H.R. 2825, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Homeland Security, S. 2221, to repeal the multi-State plan program, S. 2296, to increase access to agency guidance documents, S. 2113, to amend title 41, United States Code, to improve the manner in which Federal contracts for design and construction services are awarded, to prohibit the use of reverse auctions for design and construction services procurements, S. 2349, to direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to establish an interagency working group to study Federal efforts to collect data on sexual violence and to make recommendations on the harmonization of such efforts, S. 2178, to require the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency to make open recommendations of Inspectors General publicly available, S. 2014, to require greater transparency for Federal regulatory decisions that impact small businesses, H.R. 2229, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide permanent authority for judicial review of certain Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, S. 931, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4910 Brighton Boulevard in Denver, Colorado, as the "George Sakato Post Office", S. 2040, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 621 Kansas Avenue in Atchison, Kansas, as the "Amelia Earhart Post Office Building", H.R. 294, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the "Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building", H.R. 452, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the "Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office", H.R. 1207, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 306 River Street in Tilden, Texas, as the "Tilden Veterans Post Office", H.R. 1208, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9155 Schaefer Road, Converse, Texas, as the "Converse Veterans Post Office Building", H.R. 1858, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the "Staff Sergeant Ryan